

**CITY OF MORGAN HILL
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES - MAY 15, 2002**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kennedy called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

Council Members

Present: Council Members Carr, Sellers and Tate and Mayor Kennedy
Absent: Council Member Chang

Planning Commissioners

Present: Commissioners Acevedo, Benich, Lyle, and Mueller
Absent: Commissioners McMahon, Sullivan and Weston

Architectural Review Board

Present: Board Members Fruit, Kennett, Martin, Pyle

Downtown Task Force Members

Present: Members Sellers, Tate, Kennett, Acevedo, Lyle, Burch, Danielson, Engles, Garcia, Gonzalez-Escoto, Jensen, Jones, Miles, Murphy, Oliver, Richter, Turner, Minnich
Absent: Danielson, Jones, Miles, Murphy, Oliver, Richter

DECLARATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA

City Clerk Torrez certified that the meeting's agenda was duly noticed and posted in accordance with Government Code 54954.2.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Kennedy opened the floor to comments for items not appearing on this agenda. No comments were offered.

1. VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (VTA) PRESENTATION ON THE COORDINATION OF PLANNING THE DOWNTOWN

Mayor Kennedy indicated that he first heard an abbreviated presentation of the Community Design & Transportation Program at the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Policy Advisory Committee meeting. He felt that it would be helpful for the Planning Commission, Architectural Review Board, Downtown Task Force Members, and Measure P Update Committee to review some of the information that the VTA has developed as it is relevant to a lot of the work that the City is undertaking. He indicated that in attendance were Mike Evanhoe, Chief of Development for Highway Development, Long Range Rail Planning, and Programmer of State and

Federal Funds; Joanne Benjamin; Carolyn Gonot; and Chris Augenstein from VTA.

Mike Evanhoe presented an update on the progress of the widening of Highway 101. He said that the status of two projects were: Metcalf south and Metcalf north lane widening. He indicated that the original time frame for the completion of Metcalf south was to be in August 2003. He reported that the time frame has been accelerated to February 2003 as the date of opening. He stated that the scheduled opening for Metcalf north is April 2003. He said that VTA would like to coordinate both the north and south lane openings closer together, indicating that VTA has work to do with the contractor on the northern portion. He stated that VTA would return to the City to advise whether the time factors can be coordinated. He said that the Department of Transportation Caltrans, is cooperating with VTA to make sure that all of the permits are in order.

Mr. Evanhoe addressed the status of train service to south county and negotiations with Union Pacific relating to increased service and capital improvements to south county, noting that VTA has not reached an agreement with Union Pacific.

Mr. Evanhoe stated that in 1999-2000 the VTA Board of Directors asked staff to develop a new county wide Valley Transportation Plan 2020. This document was the foundation for the ballot measure of November 2000 that resulted in the Bart tax, a 30-year extension in the sales tax to build the Bart project. The Board adopted a resolution in December 2000 committing all state and federal discretionary funds to rail, transit, highway, and pedestrian/bicycle projects. The Board directed staff to develop an implementation plan which is under development at this time on how the \$8 billion is to be spent. VTA staff is in the process of developing the implementation plan. Staff is working toward a Community Design and Transportation best practices. He noted that VTA has no land use authority but does influence communities through funding. He said that VTA has planning grants available for cities wanting to achieve a certain level of specific area planning to be used for bicycle, pedestrian, local streets/roads, and transit projects.

Carolyn Gonot, Deputy Director for the Congestion Management Program, addressed the VTA's Community Design & Transportation Program and the Best Practices manual, a tool kit to be used on implementing community design transportation programs. She addressed Morgan Hill's opportunity areas where this program can be applicable, partnering project programming through land use planning.

Chris Augenstein presented a program overview, addressing Morgan Hill's opportunity areas, partnering with VTA to use the program for beneficial outcomes. He indicated that downtown Morgan Hill was identified as a core area and that it has a good relationship with the Caltrain station. He stated that the program develops the principles, tools and policy guidance for integrating transportation land use and encourages member agencies through VTA's funding strategies. VTA has created new funding strategies to help plan and construct projects that would implement best practices (e.g., sidewalks, bus stops, streetscapes, integrated pedestrian system). He indicated that there is an opportunity to create a mixed use district for the downtown area as it provides for a strong pedestrian environment. He stated that VTA can help the City with a pedestrian environment and possible funding for improvements.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kennedy adjourned the City Council meeting to closed session at 7:40 p.m. (see separate meeting minutes).

The Planning Commission, ARB and Downtown Task Force Members remained to continue discussion with VTA staff members.

Commissioner Mueller felt that additional time was needed to discuss this program in further detail. He recommended that a workshop meeting be held, inviting local developers to attend to further discuss this program.

Mr. Evanhoe indicated that VTA would be willing to return for a separate work study session.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

MINUTES PREPARED BY

IRMA TORREZ, City Clerk